

Memorandum

Date: November 2, 2001
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File: s: projects/midwaysunset/statusrpt/sr1.doc

To : Arthur H. Rosenfeld, Presiding Member
Michal C. Moore, Associate Member

From : California Energy Commission - Lance Shaw
1516 Ninth Street Energy Commission Project Manager
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject : RIO LINDA/ELVERTA POWER PROJECT (01-AFC-1)
STATUS REPORT #5

Progress on Significant Issues

The following areas still have unresolved issues: Air Quality, Biological Resources, Land Use, Noise, Visual Resources, Worker Safety and Fire Protection, and Water and Soil Resources. In addition to these areas, issues have been raised concerning Transmission System Engineering.

To date staff has not seen any of the documents identified in the Presiding Committee Sept 30, 2001 order.

Air Quality: Delivery of a Preliminary Determination of Compliance (PDOC) from the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD), may experience further delays. The "quarter smoothing" rule was pulled from the October Board meeting. It will not be addressed until January 2002. Without this rule, the applicant's offset package is short in some quarters.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is still expressing concerns about the agricultural offsets being proposed for this project. Also, FPL Energy Sacramento Power has yet to provide information promised to the district regarding the interpollutant trading, offsets, and other items. According to ongoing staff communications with the SMAQMD and U.S. EPA, these issues may not be resolved until after December 2001.

Land Use: On November 20, 2001, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors will continue the public hearing regarding the proposed Rio Linda/Elverta power plant's consistency review with the Rio Linda/Elverta Community Plan, the Sacramento County General Plan and the County's zone designation on the subject property. This item was continued by the Board of Supervisors on October 3, 2001 and had been previously continued from August 29, 2001.

Transmission System Engineering: The Northern California area now and through the next 5 years has inadequate transmission capability to adequately support the proposed electrical system load¹. Furthermore, the electrical system is not designed to accommodate the four power plants planned in the area: Rio Linda/Elverta Power

¹ At present there is an operative load-dropping scheme, which would be triggered for line outages for 300 MW of customers in the Greater Sacramento Area, about 250 thousand customers.

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Project (560 MW), Colusa Power Plant (500 MW), Cosumnes River Project (1,000MW), and Roseville Energy Facility (900 MW). Staff is uncertain of the potential impacts these will have on the electrical system. Staff is working internally to identify projects which have significant interrelated impacts on each other and potential overall cumulative impacts.

Alternatives: Staff has withdrawn the Alternatives Analysis data requests (numbers 113 and 114). Staff will conduct its own alternatives analysis.

cc: Rio Linda/Elverta Power Project Proof of Service list